

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 GENEVA 09820 091807Z

42

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACI IMMEDIATE 4124

S E C R E T GENEVA 9820

NODIS

FOR AMB SCHAUFELE FROM WISNER

DEPT PASS BRUSSELS FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR RH UK

SUBJECT: RHODESIA CONFERENCE: LETTER OF ASSURANCE TO NKOMO

REF: GENEVA 9811

1. DURING HIS MEETING WITH ME, NDHLOVU SUGGESTED THAT NKOMO'S APPREHENSIONS ABOUT OUR MISUNDERSTANDING OF POWER SHARING COULD BE RESOLVED THROUGH A MEETING WITH THE SECRETARY IN LONDON OR A LETTER. HE HAS JUST CALLED TO SAY THAT HE HAS CONSULTED NKOMO AND NKOMO AGREES THAT A MEETING WOULD BE ILLADVISED.

2. NKOMO WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A WRITTEN MESSAGE THAT HE WOULD TREAT WITH THE UTMOST DISCRETION. THE MESSAGE NEED NOT BE LONG BUT IT SHOULD RESTATE OUR INTEREST IN SEEING MAJORITY RULE ACHIEVED; OUR BELIEF THAT THE PROCESS WHICH WOULD BEGIN WITH THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT WAS DESIGNED TO BEGIN TRANSFER OF POWER; AND THAT THE AFRICAN PRESENCE IN THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT WOULD BE THE MAJORITY PRESENCE.

3. COMMENT: I BELIEVE THAT NKOMO'S CONFUSION IS SINCERELY BASED. IT IS NOT CERTAIN THAT THE TWO TIER FRAMEWORK WILL BE PRESERVED IF HIS CONCERN IS

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DISPelled BUT THE EFFORT WOULD BE WORTH A TRY. IF

YOU AGREE THAT THE IDEA OF A LETTER HAS MERIT, I
WOULD BRING SUCH A DOCUMENT WITH ME WHEN I RETURN
TO GENEVA FROM LONDON. CATTO

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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